the encoded leucine residue at amino acid position 447 is replaced with alanine, isoleucine, valine, proline, phenylalanine, tryptophan, or methionine; the encoded leucine residue at amino acid position 481 is replaced with alanine, isoleucine, valine, proline, phenylalanine, tryptophan, or methionine; or the leucine residue at amino acid positions 447 and 481 are independently replaced with alanine, isoleucine, valine, proline, phenylalanine, tryptophan, or methionine; and

c. obtaining recombinant host cells.

46. A plant, the genome of which comprises a nucleic acid sequence encoding a threonine deaminase protein effective to catalyze the conversion of threonine to α-ketobutyrate, wherein:

a. the encoded leucine residue at amino acid position 447 is replaced with alanine, isoleucine, valine, proline, phenylalanine, tryptophan, or methionine;

b. the encoded leucine residue at amino acid position 481 is replaced with alanine, isoleucine, valine, proline, phenylalanine, tryptophan, or methionine; or

c. the leucine residue at amino acid positions 447 and 481 are independently replaced with alanine, isoleucine, valine, proline, phenylalanine, tryptophan, or methionine.

REMARKS

With this amendment, claims 1-40 have been cancelled and claims 41-46 have been added. The active claims in this case are claims 41-46.

The specification has been amended to recite the relationship with the parent case, namely that this application is a divisional of co-pending application Serial No. 09/313,123 filed May 17, 2001, which is a divisional of Serial No. 08/673,388, filed June 28, 1996, now issued (US patent 5,958,745 September 28, 1999), which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/628,039, filed April 4, 1996, now issued (US patent 5,942,660 August 24, 1999), which is a

continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/614,877, filed March 13, 1996, now issued (US patent 5,959,179 September 28, 1999).

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from our Deposit Account No. 01-2508/11899.0155.DVUS02/KAM.

Respectfully submitted,

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